

Memorandum of Understanding

Commemorating the 60th anniversary of the historic speech by U.S. Secretary of State George C. Marshall at Harvard and his proposal for the United States “to assist in the return of normal economic health in the world” and “the revival of a working economy in the world so as to permit the emergence of political and social conditions in which free institutions can exist”,

Remembering the great success of the European Recovery Program which greatly contributed to the ability of Europe to recover from the ruins of World War II,

Recognizing the positive developments in Europe over the past 60 years, which have brought about European unification, peace and prosperity, and freedom of the peoples of Central and Eastern Europe, thus consigning the unnatural division of Europe to the past,

The Republic of Austria and the United States of America intend, through this Memorandum of Understanding, to continue the promotion of mutual understanding of the peoples of the United States and Austria by establishing a bilateral exchange program.

The program, to be funded by the Austrian ERP Fund, is designed to improve Austro-American relations in the spirit of the Marshall Plan and strengthen scholarly and scientific co-operation.

Therefore, the Governments of both countries declare their intention

- to encourage educational co-operation through exchanges of students, in particular of universities of applied sciences and technical universities (including the Uni-

versity of Leoben, and the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences) and colleges in the field of vocational training,

- to further the efforts of AFS-Austria which contributes to mutual understanding of young people through its programs of student exchanges,
- to support the dedication of adequate funding from the Austrian ERP Fund, in order to enable the Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation to offer up to 1000 scholarships for American and Austrian students, i.e. annually up to 100 per year for the academic years 2008 through 2017,
- to promote a co-operation between the Marshall Plan Foundation, the Austrian-American Educational Commission (Fulbright Commission) and the Austrian Exchange Service (OeAD) in the administrative implementation of this program.

Signed at Vienna on June 5, 2007

Martin Bartenstein
Federal Minister of
Economics and Labour

Susan R. McCaw
Ambassador of the United
States of America to Austria